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**Sughrue**

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037-3213

T 202.293.7060

F 202.293.7860

www.sughrue.com

January 5, 2004

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

31355 U.S. PTO  
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Re: Application of **James E. GALEN** entitled **"PLASMID MAINTENANCE SYSTEM FOR ANTIGEN DELIVERY"**  
Assignee: **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE**  
Our Ref: **A-8702**

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Divisional Application of pending prior Application No. **09/453,313** (Conf. No. 2449) filed **December 2, 1999**, of **James E. GALEN** entitled **"PLASMID MAINTENANCE SYSTEM FOR ANTIGEN DELIVERY"**; which is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Application No. **09/204,117**, filed **December 2, 1998**; and Provisional Application No. **60/158,738**, filed **October 12, 1999**.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and Abstract, 28 sheets of drawings, and a copy of the executed Substitute Declaration and Power of Attorney (as filed in the prior application on December 1, 2003).

Also filed simultaneously herewith is a Preliminary Amendment, Information Disclosure Statement (along with Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) - listing references cited by Applicant and/or the Examiner during prosecution of the prior application) and Request to Use Computer-Readable Form of Sequence Listing (along with a copy of the Sequence Listing).

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 1636.

Applicant claims benefit of small entity status in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>35</u> - 20	= <u>15</u>	x	\$9.00	=	<u>\$135.00</u>
Independent claims	<u>1</u> - 3	= <u>        </u>	x	\$43.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Base Fee						<u>\$385.00</u>

**TOTAL FILING FEE**

**\$520.00**

A check for the statutory fee, in the amount of \$520.00, is attached.




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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,  
**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
Attorneys for Applicant

By   
Drew Hissong  
Registration No. 44,765

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER